

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s): ROSS, Stanley R.J.; ROSS, Roddy J.  
Title: FLARE TANK APPARATUS FOR DEGASSING DRILLING FLUID  
Serial No.: Unassigned  
Filed: Herewith  
Date: January 28, 2004

Mail Stop DD  
Director of the United States Patent & Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56**

Transmitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement disclosing information which has come to the attention of applicant(s) and/or their agents and is being submitted in compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98, transmitted herewith are:

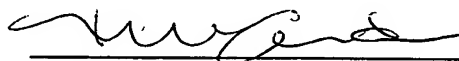
1. A completed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 "Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant" listing the patents, publications and other information being submitted for consideration; and

2. A legible copy of each patent, publication and other item of information in written form listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08, except for copies of U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications which are not required for applications filed after 30 June 2003.

As this application was filed after 30 June 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08 are not required and, therefore, not included herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



David J. McGruder

Registration No. 32,375

tel: 604.669.3432 ext. 222

fax: 604.681.4081

e-mail: dmcgruder@patentable.com

Vancouver, B.C.  
CANADA

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	Unassigned
Filing Date	Filed herewith
First Named Inventor	Stanley R.J. Ross
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	B552 0003

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	1	US- 251,785	Jan 3, 1882	H.T.Litchfield et al	
	2	US- 1,293,761	Feb 11, 1919	W.R. Gulick	
	3	US- 2,099,779	Nov 23, 1937	G.R. Tremolada	
	4	US- 2,919,898	Jan 5, 1960	S.J. Marwil et al.	
	5	US- 3,739,436	Jun 12, 1973	Litchfield et al.	
	6	US- 4,126,419	Nov 21, 1978	Katabuchi et al.	
	7	US- 4,666,471	May 19, 1987	Cates	
	8	US- 5,807,095	Sep 15, 1998	Gustafson et al.	
	9	US- 5,882,187	Mar 16, 1999	Gustafson et al.	
	10	US- 5,919,036	Jul 6, 1999	O'Brien et al.	
	11	US- 5,997,284	Dec 7, 1999	Gustafson et al.	
	12	US- 6,390,190	May 21, 2002	Mullins	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.